

## TWO NEW AUSTRALIAN LUCANDIÆ.

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In the preparation of the Paper which I read at last Meeting, on the genus *Lamprima*, I was necessarily led to make a close examination of all the Australian Pecticornis in my cabinets. The result has been the discovery of two very remarkable insects, hitherto I believe quite unknown. For one of these I am compelled to form a new genus, it differs so widely from any previously described; the other, though also of most distinctive and peculiar appearance, may, I think, be very properly placed in the genus *Rhyssonotus*

### HOMOLAMPRIMA. nov. gen.

*Mentum* triangularly rounded in front, slightly transversal.

*Labium* extending prominently beyond the mandibles.

*Maxillæ* prominent, apparently corneous, hidden in long hair.

*Palpi* strong, rather short.

*Mandibles* short, exerted, not bearded on the inside.

*Head* small, subquadrate.

*Eyes* transversal, entire.

*Antennæ* short, stout, the first joint clavate and about the length of the next six united, the three last forming a foliate club.

*Prothorax* slightly convex, very slightly angled on the sides.

*Elytra* slightly convex.

*Prosternum* rather broad between the fore legs, terminating behind in a prominent round point.

*Mesosternum* terminating in front in a broad crescent shaped emargination, as if to receive the prosternal process.

*Legs* rather slight, the fore tibiæ armed externally.

I scarcely know to what group of the Lucanidæ to refer this genus. In its narrow head, general form, and metallic colouring, the insect shows an affinity to the *Lamprimidæ*, but on the other hand, its distant fore legs, broad prosternum and curiously formed mesosternum seem to indicate an approach to the true *Lucanidæ*. I regret that having only one specimen, I have been unable to examine the maxillæ and labium in a satisfactory way.

HOMOLAMPRIMA CRENULATA. n. sp.

*Male.* Of a rather depressed ovate form. The upper surface dull bronzy black, with metallic reflections on the margin of the thorax and elytra, and on the whole of the scutellum. The under surface, legs, mandibles and antennæ are of a brilliant metallic bluish-green. The head is square, rugose, broadly and triangularly but not deeply depressed, and coarsely and profoundly punctate. The mandibles are shorter than the head, punctured above, smooth on the sides and curving a little upwards and inwards towards the apex where the two terminal teeth of each mandible come in contact. The thorax is broader than long, narrowed a little at the apex with the anterior angles a little prominent, rounded on the sides which are crenulated, slightly bisinuate at the base, very finely and thinly punctate, and with a slight depression near the base of the median line. Scutellum smooth, triangular, the sides rounded. Elytra about the width of the thorax, and about twice its length with a few obsolete striæ near the suture, and with the whole surface rather thinly sprinkled with minute variolose-looking punctures. The under surface is mostly smooth; the chin is rugosely punctured; the pro- and meso-sternal processes are smooth; the fore tibiæ are armed externally with four strong teeth, three near the apex, and one above the middle, the other tibiæ have each a small tooth on the outside near the middle.

Length, 9 lines.

*Hab.*—Clarence River.

*Female.* I have in my collection one specimen of a female, which is undoubtedly of this genus, and which I think is almost

certainly the female of the species just described, but I have no certain proof of the fact. It is longer, broader and slightly flatter than the male insect, is of a dark metallic green on the head and thorax, which are densely punctate, the elytra are of a purplish blue; the fore tibiæ are sexdentate externally and the mandibles are very short. In all other respects it is exactly like the male specimen described above. I cannot give the exact habitat of this specimen, as it is only labelled "New South Wales," but it is probably also from the Clarence River District.

RHYSSONOTUS LATICEPS. n. sp.

Black, nitid, slightly convex. The head is very short and very broad, the anterior angles extending laterally to the width of the thorax; its anterior margin is nearly straight, and its upper surface is very rugose and densely punctate, with an elevation in the middle terminating in two small tubercles, and with a depression on each side. The mandibles are twice the length of the head, broad, very roughly punctured, pilose, curved upward a little at the apex, and armed on the inner side with several obtuse teeth. The antennæ are short, the club consisting of six joints. The mentum is triangular, and immediately behind it, on the jugulum, there is a large compressed transverse tubercle. The eyes are completely divided. The thorax is finely and sparingly punctate, broader than the length, and of the same width as the triangular extension of the head; the sides are parallel, the apex and base almost truncate, the posterior angles excised, and the median line deep, with a fovea on each side near the middle. The scutellum is transversely rounded and punctured lightly. The elytra are of the width of the thorax and not twice the length, profoundly striato-punctate, with the four of five interstices nearest the suture, smooth and convex near the base. The under surface is minutely punctate and rather pilose. The fore tibiæ are armed externally with four rather small teeth, the middle tibiæ with one.

Length, 9 lines.

One specimen, a male, is all I have ever seen of this strange looking insect. It is labelled "New Holland," and has evidently been in the old Macleay collection for a very long time.

The shape of the head, and the sculpture of the elytra, give it a very different aspect from either *Rhyssonotus nebulosus* or *jugularis*, but it has notwithstanding a considerable affinity to the latter of these. The only other known species, *Rhyssonotus parallelus*, described by Deyrolle, in the "Ann. de la Soc. Ent. de France," from a female caught in 1881, I have never seen, but from the description and figure it seems in its parallel form to resemble a little the present species. The resemblance, however, does not extend beyond this, and it seems to me extremely unlikely, therefore, that they are the sexes of the same species.